It’s nice to be back in school as we begin Term 2 and it’s noticeable entering the school grounds what a lovely school environment we have.

Our overriding learning theme for the term relates to the concept of Citizenship which we have linked to the idea of exploring our local community. By local community we mean our Wakari/ Helensburgh area. We can focus on a wide range of concepts from the types of professions or roles people play, to the different facilities we have such as amenities or things in the natural environment around us.

Our winter code sports teams will be in action shortly and I’d just like to acknowledge the efforts of our parents in coaching, supporting and transporting our children throughout the term.

Hei koni ra

Richard Duffy

We aspire to become confident, creative, life long learners who follow Christ
Dates for your Diaries

May
Monday 2  First day of term 2
Friday 6  First Friday Mass/Mufti Day
Saturday 7  Mothers Day Mass
Monday 9- Friday 10, Room 3 Skills to Swim
Monday 16  BOT meeting 7 pm

Altar Servers
May
Saturday 7  School Mass
Saturday 14  David & Ati Makasini
Saturday 21  Kata & Janivah Moata’ane
Saturday 28  David & Ati Makasini

Pine Cones
There are a few bags of pine cones for sale $2.50 each. See either Richard or Jacquie if you would like some. These are great fire starters and burn nice and hot!! Or you could use them for some craft ideas.

Electives Programme Term 2
Our fully funded Year 3-6 electives programme will run this term and for term 3 also. The options for this term are squash and robotics. Children will receive squash coaching at the squash courts next to Bowl Line on Kaikorai Valley Rd and Mike Mullens who is a fully trained ICT teacher will lead the robotics elective. We are looking at starting in week 5 of this term and concluding in week 9.

More detailed information including a return options sheet will be given for Year 3-6 children to take home in the next week or two.

Chopper Appeal Mufti Day
This Friday there is a National mufti day in schools fundraising to support rescue helicopters throughout New Zealand and we have registered our school in this. Children have the option of coming to school in mufti and we are asking for a gold coin donation which will go toward the chopper appeal.

Hockey
We are happy to confirm we have 2 hockey teams again this year, a junior and a senior team. We are excited to have children from St Brigid’s, St Bernadette’s and Musselburgh joining us.

Our first practice is tomorrow (Tuesday 3rd May) at the Balmac Turf from 4-5pm. Games begin next week. We are looking forward to an exciting season with lots of new players

Basketball Otago Coaching Clinics
Basketball Otago are offering coaching clinics this term. Lessons begin on the 10th May at the Edgar Centre. The program runs for 8 weeks and is on Tuesdays for 1 hour each week from 3.30-4.30. The cost is around $70 for the term.

For more information please contact Natalie at Basketball Otago at development@basketballotago.co.nz
Family/Parish Mass - Mother’s Day Mass

*Saturday 7th May at 6pm.*

This is our Family Mass for Term 2, a special one where we acknowledge and thank our wonderful mothers, grandmothers and role models. We would love to celebrate this with our entire school family, we hope you can make it. *Children are to wear their school uniform please, and a plate for the supper afterwards would be greatly appreciated.* Thank you in advance.

**Young Vinnies Group:**

Our Year 5&6 students will make up this group and will meet for the first time tomorrow. They will be discussing their roles within the group and their ‘service to others’ for this term. Mark Currie from St Vincent de Paul will lead this group. These children will be commissioned during our Family/Parish Mass this Saturday night and receive their badges.

**Imaginative Prayer Module**

Prayer is about being with God.

This week in our RE lessons we are learning about different ways to pray.

**The Feast of the Ascension of our Lord**

*Thursday 5th May.*

This is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after Easter. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven.

We will be celebrating this Feast Day during our First Friday Mass this Friday 6th May at 9.30am. Please feel welcome to join us.
Possible Winter Term Postponements or Cancellations

It’s prudent to remind you at this stage about postponements and cancellations of school due to snow or treacherous conditions. School closures are made by a member of the Otago Primary Principal’s Association in conjunction with the Dunedin Police.

These are broadcast usually from 6:30 am on most local Dunedin radio stations eg. Classic Hits. The same decisions can be made for late starts due to weather, however on occasions individual schools can make the decision for a late start. If (or when this type of thing happens) we intend to post this information on our school Facebook page.

In the event of a late start, please come down to the school buildings to check that school is actually open. There can be occasions where the decision is made as late as 8:30 am to close for the day.

If at any time you believe it is unsafe to transport or for your child to walk to school because of the road or general footpath conditions please feel free to make that decision and simply inform us at school.

Sausage sizzle/Hot Chocolates Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes

Name _____________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each ____________

Hot Chocolate (free) only 1 per child__________

Before the holidays we read the story “Anzac Ted”. Here is the art work we made about the story, and to remember our brave soldiers.

We also had a Discovery Time with and ANZAC theme. Some of us went to the special services last Monday. “Lest we Forget”